

GOING DEEPER: QUESTIONS FOR ANALYSIS AND GROUP INSTRUCTIONS

GROUP 2: “Alpheus Waters: June 5, 1882”

First assign the tasks for your group. You will need one person to write a paper copy of your answers, one to take primary responsibility for making the poster, one to present the poster to class, one to read the poem to class and one to explain the poetic features. On your answers to the questions below, please identify all group members and list their contributions.

1. Look up any words that are confusing or unfamiliar to explain to class.
2. Find a clear example of sound play (assonance, consonance, alliteration, etc.)
3. Identify the poetic form and any structural patterns you find.
FOCUS: Stanza breaks.
4. Metaphor—identify and explain any central or unusual figures of speech
5. What is the overall emotional quality of the poem? Is it a poem of grief, bitterness, etc.? Why do you say so?
6. Describe the voice of this speaker, particularly in contrast with the other voices in this group of poems. How does the poem characterize Alpheus, as compared to Anne? As compared to the younger Robin? Think of both similarities and differences. Who would you pick to play this character in a movie?
7. Make a poster or “playbill” for your poem with 3 images from the poem, and a significant quote. Include the name of the poem and character. You may use an 8 ½” x 11” sheet or a larger poster board. Stick figures are fine if they are appealing and vivid—this is not an art project! Give your poster a title that represents the essence of your character.
8. Present the poem and the features identified above to class with your poster.
 - One group member should show and explain the poster, drawing on and including answers to questions 5 and 6.
 - One group member should define any unfamiliar words and read the poem.
 - One group member should point out the poetic features in questions 2-4.
9. Turn in written answers for credit.